



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: August 4, 2013

Number: 22

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WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR AUGUST 4, 2013

The Commonwealth experienced scattered showers and cooler than normal temperatures this week. The lows ranged from the mid 50s to the mid 60s; the average temperature was about 1 to 3 degrees below normal. Days suitable for field work were 5.4. In some counties, the hay harvest was disrupted by thunderstorms. In other parts of the State, some of the crops were showing stress due to the lack of water. Overall, the majority of field crops were in good condition. The vegetable harvest was in full swing; disease pressure was high due to the reoccurring rain showers. In some places, rain and warm weather contributed to an increase of parasites in sheep. Other framing activities for the week included scouting for pest, preparing for the corn harvest, make plans for 2014 small grains, topping and harvesting tobacco, and applying fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
August 5, 2013	0	11	73	16
July 28, 2013	0	12	65	23
July 21, 2013	0	4	63	33
July 14, 2013	0	0	57	43
July 7, 2013	1	1	65	33

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
August 5, 2013	0	9	71	20
July 28, 2013	1	10	73	16
July 21, 2013	0	4	70	26
July 14, 2013	0	1	63	36
July 7, 2013	0	5	68	27

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Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	0	3	18	60	19
Livestock	1	1	9	55	34
Hay, Other	2	6	22	53	17
Hay, Alfalfa	0	4	15	61	20
Corn	1	3	8	46	42
Soybeans	2	1	16	59	22
Tobacco, Flue-Cured	0	6	22	51	21
Tobacco, Burley	1	4	29	57	9
Tobacco, Dark Fire Cured	0	1	28	65	6
Peanuts	0	8	8	65	19
Cotton	3	7	3	74	13
Apples, All	0	0	4	95	1
Peaches	0	5	24	68	3
Grapes	0	10	20	69	1

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Silked	89	85	94	93
Corn Dough	60	48	63	65
Corn Dent	22	7	39	33
Soybeans Blooming	59	36	52	57
Soybeans Setting Pods	19	7	20	24
Tobacco, Flue-Cured Harvested	18	7	na	na
Tobacco, Burley	1	na	0	1
Tobacco, Dark Fired Cured	5	na	0	4
Cotton Squaring	100	85	100	95
Cotton Setting Bolls	65	30	83	71
Peanuts Pegged	80	72	92	82
Apples, Summer Harvested	40	37	39	42
Peaches Harvested	60	45	54	51
Potatoes, Summer Harvested	92	89	98	93

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 4, 2013

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Aug. 3	Mar. 1 to Aug. 3 Norm	Last Week	Since June. 1	June 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	85	62	88	55	73	-2	2455	2330	0.06	9.77	1.20	30.21	3.71
Norfolk	85	70	89	67	78	-1	2746	2557	1.13	11.94	2.47	29.36	1.05
Richmond	87	68	90	65	77	-1	2750	2534	1.70	13.01	4.34	31.89	5.54
Roanoke	83	63	87	56	73	-3	2478	na	0.25	19.36	11.30	39.90	13.83
Wash/Dulles	82	63	86	60	73	-3	2429	na	0.35	12.04	4.07	26.03	1.24

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

FREDERICK (Jeanette Smith)

Weather has been in the 80's during the day and in the 50's at night. Thunderstorms here and there.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

Crop conditions continue to look very positive - hopefully stays that way until harvest is complete. Some of the dairy farmers started chopping corn silage last week before the rain Wed night into Thurs morning. No report of the tonnage per acre.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Crops starting to show stress conditions from lack of rainfall. Most crops are shallow rooted.

CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)

Crop conditions continue to look good. All early planted soybeans have blooms and are setting pods at 100%. Double crop soybeans are not in bloom as of this date.

HANOVER (Jim Tate)

It was a mild and wet week last week. More scattered storms brought from 3/4 to 3 inches of rain, depending on location. Mild temperatures made the week very enjoyable. Late beans are beginning to be visible above the small grain stubble. Early beans and corn look good. Hay making around the showers continues to be problematic. Anyone who

does not have good pasture grass now is certainly overstocked and poorly managed.

EASTERN

ESSEX (Keith Balderson)

Growers continued to scout soybeans for pests. Some acres were treated with fungicides and herbicides. Growers also spent the week getting ready for corn harvest and attending field days.

MIDDLESEX (David Moore)

Most all soybeans are planted now. Some replants going on. Post emergent herbicide applications on DC beans and insecticide-fungicide applications on FS beans. Corn is continuing to dry down somewhat. Lack of nitrogen and leaf disease is speeding the process. Not quite the crop that we had a few years ago, but good nonetheless. Many fields have some bad spots due to cool wet spring and excessive rains. We will see when the combine goes through. Farm activities have slowed some. Clean up and fix up continues. Some haymaking. Vegetable harvest in full swing. Folks are making plans for small grain planting and are contemplating whether to contract any grain. Market has been on a downward trend for a while.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

SOUTHERN

LUNENBURG (Lindy Tucker)

Tobacco: some pulling has begun. The plants look good most places. One end of the county got hit hard by a storm though and some fields were obliterated. I have seen some dark being cut in other counties, but have not seen it here yet. Fruit: bad year for fruit. The rain has made disease rampant and difficult to control. The peaches were also hit by hail early on, taking out a considerable amount of fruit. Corn: un-uniform and very little of it this year. Though this has been a good year for corn, very little was planted in Lunenburg and that which was sports fields not very uniform in growth.

Soybeans: Full season look good most places. It will be interesting to see what the late beans do since they were so late due to late wheat harvest/rain. Pastures/hayfields: so-so. Hay has been difficult to bale before it gets rained on. The pastures are fair/good and livestock look pretty good.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)

Rain was spotty this week. Crops look fairly decent. Tobacco being harvested. Crops being scouted for damage. Kudzu bugs and corn ear worm have been found.

CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)

We received about 1-inch of rain Thursday, the first rain in about 3-weeks. This will help corn & soybeans both of which have excellent yield potential. Temperatures are moderate which is also helping crops.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Another week of scattered thunderstorms disrupted hay harvesting efforts. Vegetable crops are struggling against disease pressure. Row crops are behind normal schedule due to delayed plantings but weather conditions have been very favorable for their development. Corn is shaping-up very nicely as are soybeans but they are late blooming.